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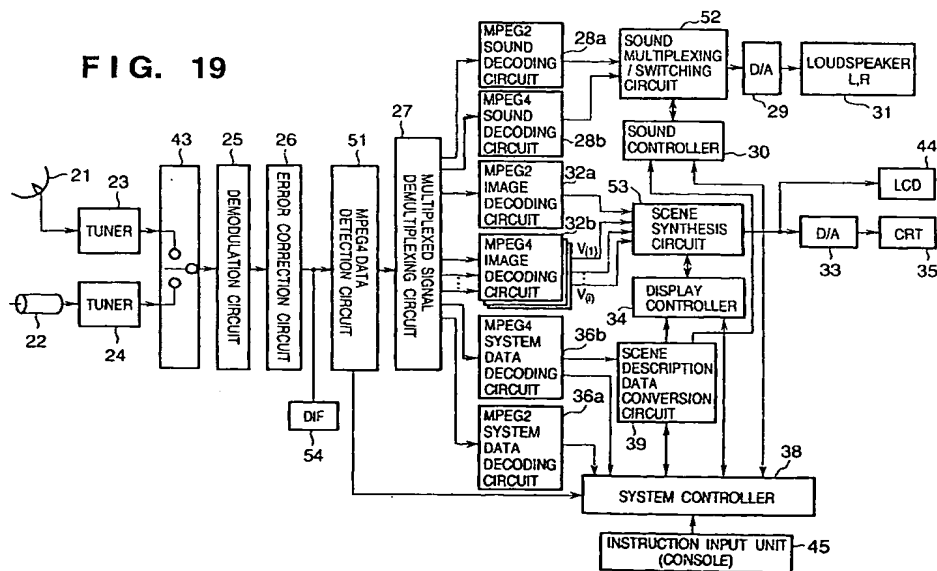
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(54) Image processing apparatus and method

(57) Upon implementing multi-functional TV broadcast and the like, it is desired to obtain information that pertains to a main image or that the user wants occasionally, if it does not pertain to the main image, in the form of an image as sub data with a small information size which is appended to the main image. For this purpose, MPEG4 data of sub TV information multiplexed in an MPEG2 datastream of the received and selected dig-

ital TV broadcast program is detected, and it is checked based on that detection result if MPEG4 data is included in the MPEG2 datastream. If MPEG4 data is included, an MPEG4 datastream is demultiplexed from the MPEG2 datastream, MPEG2 and MPEG4 data are respectively demultiplexed into sound, image, and system data, the demultiplexed data are decoded, and the output formats of MPEG2 image and sound data and MPEG4 scene and sound data are set.

FIG. 19

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 30 0185

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 15 December 2003	Examiner Dumbrăveanu, R
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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